

Rush's new album Roll the Bones (Atlantic) isn't bad at all. In fact the first few songs are quite listenable with both strong melodies and lyrics made more meaningful by Geddy Lee's vocals. Even "Where's My Thing," (Part IV of the "Gangster of Boats" Trilogy) comes off as modern rock mood music that would fit well with a movie soundtrack or if instrumentals were still on the hit parade would be an end of the century counterpart to "Telstar." They even get sorta funky on "The Big Wheel" and "Ghost of a Chance." Most of the songs have a feeling of overriding despair at the state of the world, but it's focused and not stupid and amazingly free of pretension. I almost wanna go.

Rush with Vinnie Moore: Sun., Dec. 1 at 7:30 p.m. at the Spectrum, Broad St., and Pattison Ave, \$17.50, 336-2000.

--Peter Brown